

The latest news from Luna Community College

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Visit luna.edu

Luna, Forest Institute partner to offer free restoration workshops



Landowners impacted by the Calf Canyon/Hermits Peak Fire and subsequent flooding off the burn scar, now need to restore their lands and forests. Luna Community College, in partnership with the New Mexico Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute is offering some answers through a series of free workshops to help landowners address erosion, bring back vegetation and build marketable skills they can use to help others affected by fire. The workshops are called Querencia in Action: Post-Fire Land Restoration.

The first of the free workshops will be held on the following dates:

July 18-19: One rock dams and arroyo restoration: Where to build, what to build and how to build structures to retain soil and slow down water. Time: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day. Please meet at the Mora County parking lot near the Cargo Public Library at 8 a.m.

July 20-21: Erosion control with log structures: How to use charred trees to stabilize soils after a fire.

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Luna along with the NM Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute are offering post-fire Land and Restoration workshops. For more information, call Karen Wezwick at 505-454-5308. Courtesy photo by Kathryn Mahan, NMFWRI

Luna recently held a STEM Camp for students in Santa Rosa at the Pecos Watershed Education Center at Rock Lake Hatchery. For more, see page 7.



Free restoration workshops...

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Time: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day. Please meet at the San Geronimo Fire Station, 623 CR A19A at 8 a.m.

The workshops will cover:

- Reading the landscape and assessing post-fire damage, risks, and hazards
- How to use burn severity maps to assess your land's vulnerability to flooding
- Post-fire forest thinning
- Adapting road and culverts for post-fire flood mitigation
- Erosion control with log structures, wattles, mulch and soil amendments
- One-rock dams and arroyo restoration
- Trash and debris racks
- Contour felling and upland restoration for erosion prevention
- Seed mixes and tree/shrub planting
- Basic principles in monitoring the effects of post-fire restoration

“The hope is that individuals who participate in the training will possess the skills needed to be hired to do some of this work by contractors or landowners. In addition, these workshops will also benefit landowners who can utilize what they learn to restore their own property,”—Luna President Dr. Edward Martinez.

“We are very excited to partner with the NM Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute and offer land conservation and restoration workshops to individuals from our communities,” said Luna President Dr. Edward Martinez. “These workshops are intended to provide some basic training to individuals who may have lost their ability to make a living off the land because of the recent wildfires and give them skills that will enable them to seek employment restoring the fire impacted areas. The hope is that

individuals who participate in the training will possess the skills needed to be hired to do some of this work by contractors or landowners. In addition, these workshops will also benefit landowners who can utilize what they learn to restore their own property.”

You may sign up at luna.edu or show up at the designated meeting areas on the day of the workshops. For assistance, contact Karen Wezwick at 505-454-5308 or via e-mail at kwezwick@luna.edu.



Luna STEM instructor Geno Castillo talks on ratio and proportion to Felicia Rendon and Hailee Gallegos during a math summer class. Registration for the fall semester is ongoing. The first day of class begins on Monday, Aug. 22.

Get **STRONGER.**

Learn **essential skills** and build confidence to take on a **rewarding career!**

Luna's array of degree, certificate and workforce training programs include dental assisting, CNA, nursing, pre-engineering, business administration, early childhood education and many more.



FALL 2022 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Tuition rates start at just \$45 a credit hour. Luna's terrific value is recognized by national websites. Additional course fees may apply. Financial aid and scholarships available.

Fall classes start Aug. 22; registration ongoing through Aug. 29.

Visit LUNA.edu for details, or call 505-454-2500 or 1-800-588-7232.



16th Annual Luna Car Show

*Saturday, July 23, 2022
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the LCC Campus*



Open to all makes, models and years
of cars, trucks, motorcycles
and bicycles.

Proceeds will go to a scholarship fund for
Luna students affected by the wildfires.

\$20 per entry

- Plaques will be given in several categories
- Food booths and door prizes

For more
information, call
Anthony Baca at
429-0425



Randall Krutsch driven to rebuild Luna's softball program

The following is a one-on-one interview with Luna's Randal Krutsch.

Position: Head Softball Coach

What year did you start working for Luna? 2021

What do you like most about Luna and why? What I like best about Luna is the commitment from the faculty and staff to the students and their development not only academically but as individuals to grow to be productive members of our society.

What does your job entail; what does a day at Luna look like for you? As the Head Coach of the softball team, my job is to lead, develop, instruct and assist our student athletes on and off the field. I ensure that they are taking the correct number of classes and they are attending them and doing well academically. I coordinate practices, games, budget, travel, equipment and recruiting. My days are filled with many tasks to accomplish every day such as recruiting new students, holding practices teaching the game and enhancing our players skills. Practice plans and conditioning our student athletes to prepare them for competition and keep them healthy as well as assist them in getting to a University. I work with other coaches to set schedules and prospect camps as well as develop relationships with coaches to get players moved up to the University level.

Favorite food and why? I love Mexican food of all kinds. I was introduced to real Mexican food when I was in junior college in El Centro, California and fell in love with the flavors.

Favorite TV show and why? I



Randall Krutsch, third from left, threw out the first pitch in an Albuquerque Isotopes game in late April as a way to get more exposure for Luna.

really don't have a favorite show to say. I love sarcastic humor and comedies that I don't have to invest too much into. I love cheap laughs.

Where would you like to see yourself in five years? Honestly. I see myself at Luna. I have a passion for junior college athletes because if it were not for Junior College opportunities, I don't think I would have the degrees that I have now and I am confident that I would not be coaching our next generation right now. I love what I do and I love this level.

What is your greatest strength? I think my greatest strength is teaching the game. I enjoy studying the game and teaching it to others. I enjoy the challenges of understanding each individual and learning how they take in information and process the information. I am a competitive person by nature and we

can not win if I don't teach the game in a way that makes sense to the players to play.

What would you consider your biggest accomplishment in life and why? Having former players develop such a love of the game that they became coaches themselves and are passing what they learned to others.

What do you consider a good day in your life? A good day to me is when I have been challenged physically and mentally and I accomplished the task or goal. I know that every day I am going to fail and if I can learn from the failure, I consider that a good day as well.

What do you enjoy doing outside of working at Luna? I enjoy hearing what my former players are up to and what they are

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Randall Krutsch...

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accomplishing. I met up with three of my former players this summer who are now coaching softball and they were actually competing against each other. One of my greatest joys is seeing players that I have coached continue in the work and touching others lives.

Any final comments? I am so excited about rebuilding this program. Retaining only a handful of play-

ers from the previous year and recruiting basically a whole new team has been difficult, but I believe we have put together a group of young ladies that will develop into a tough tight knit team that will turn this program around quickly. I fully expect to shock a lot of schools with how aggressive and talented this team is. I think we will be the school to watch and New Mexico athletes will look to Luna before looking to schools in Colorado, Texas and Arizona.



This picture of the edition, depicts the Pecos River with lots of water in Anton Chico. The Pecos River flows through eastern New Mexico and west Texas and eventually ends up in the Rio Grande River.

College Scorecard:

The U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard has the most reliable data on college costs, graduation and post-college earnings. Visit collegescorecard.ed.gov

Santa Rosa students enjoy two-day STEM Camp



Santa Rosa students get instruction from Luna and Fish Hatcher employees on the proper way to dissect a fish. The hands-on pilot STEM Camp was considered a success. Luna plans to have more of these camps within its service area.

Nine eighth and ninth graders from Santa Rosa participated and enjoyed a two-day STEM Camp on July 11-12 that partnered Luna Community College, Santa Rosa Consolidated Schools and the New Mexico Game & Fish.

Students met on the first day and were introduced to the concept of parameters used to measure water quality. Campers were able to conduct water quality testing using aquatic test kits of the water source at Rock Lake Hatchery as well as Park Lake. Day two engaged students in fish anatomy with dissections. Students were provided 8-10 month old trout in which to explore the anatomy of these cold water fish. Students then summed up their experience in the design of a three panel informational pamphlet. This pilot program was intended to increase the collaboration between Public Education institutions, Higher Education institutions and a government agency.

The goal is sustain and grow this program to reach more students and encourage them to enter STEM pathways and careers.

"It was nice and fun camp," said Angelica Enciso one of the students. "It was also nice to work outside and meet

new people."

Estele Thompson, one of the instructors at the camp thought it was very beneficial.

"It was outstanding," said Thompson. "It is optimistic to see STEM taught in the rural communities. I'm excited to see what the students take with them from this camp."

Camps such as these ones are planned for Luna's other service areas.

"We want to replicate this in Springer, Mora and Las Vegas next summer," said Luna STEM Director Francisco Apodaca. "We want our area youth to develop an interest in fishery and develop and create workers in these areas."

-Apodaca said that among the camp's objectives were:

- Students engaging in the scientific method exploring the natural world in their community.
- -Students gaining understanding of parameters and how they are measured to determine water quality.
- Students exploring the anatomy of fish to initiate inquiry in body systems.



Luna's dental assisting class of 2022 will have a pinning ceremony at 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 21 at the Media Arts Auditorium. Everyone is invited to the event.

Luna employees, students and family members took part in the City of Las Vegas' Fourth of July Parade. Luna plans to participate in area parades throughout the school year.

